



City of Huntington Beach Planning and Building Department

STAFF REPORT

TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Scott Hess, AICP, Director of Planning and Building
BY: Rosemary Medel, Associate Planner *RM*
DATE: July 23, 2013

SUBJECT: GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 13-004 (CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013/14)

APPLICANT: City of Huntington Beach, Public Works Department, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

PROPERTY OWNER: City of Huntington Beach, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

LOCATION: Citywide

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

- ♦ General Plan Conformance No. 13-004 request:
 - Evaluate Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2013/14 for compliance with the General Plan.
- ♦ Staff's Recommendation: Approve General Plan Conformance No. 13-004 based upon the following:
 - The proposed projects conform to the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to:

“Adopt Resolution No.1673, approving General Plan Conformance No. 13-004 with findings (Attachment Nos. 1 and 2).”

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

The Planning Commission may take alternative actions such as:

- A. “Deny General Plan Conformance No. 13-004 with findings for denial.”
- B. “Continue General Plan Conformance No. 13-004 and direct staff accordingly.”

PROJECT PROPOSAL:

General Plan Conformance No.13-004 represents a request, pursuant to Section 65401 of the California Government Code, by the City of Huntington Beach to determine if the 2013/14 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is in conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan. The 2013/14 CIP is a list of proposed projects recommended for planning, initiation, or construction during the next fiscal year.

ISSUES:

General Plan Conformance:

The only issue to consider as part of this request is if the proposed CIP for fiscal year 2013/14 is in conformance to the City's General Plan. The CIP conforms to the following goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan:

I. DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

A. Planned Projects:

1. Banning Ave. Water Quality Project
This project would create a bio-retention swale in the asphalt frontage median in an effort to treat adjacent urban runoff.
2. Bushard/Adams Water Quality Project
This project would create a bio-retention swale in the asphalt frontage median in an effort to treat adjacent urban runoff.
3. Northwest Catch Basin Retrofit Project, Phase 1 and 2
Retrofit 126 existing catch basins with curb inlet filters to treat urban runoff.

B. General Plan Policies:

U 1.2 Ensure that existing development, redevelopment, and new development does not degrade the City's surface waters and groundwater basins.

U 3.3.2 Where feasible, utilize natural overland flows, open channels, and swale routings as preferred alignments for components of drainage systems.

CE 7.1.7 Continue to construct landscaped medians in existing major and primary arterial streets and continue to require the construction of landscaped medians in new developments.

II. FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

A. Planned Projects:

1. Police Department Elevator Modernization
This project will provide safety and modernization improvements.
2. Main Street Library ADA Improvements
This project will provide accessibility improvements to the building.
3. Central Library Interior Improvements
This project will provide improvements to the library's material handling system as well as modernization of the theater.
4. Various Roof Replacements
Replace the existing roof of various City buildings, which have reached the end of their useful life. The Facilities include: Oak View Library, Murdy Fire Station, and Bushard Fire Station.

B. General Plan Policies:

LU 13.1.1 Allow for the continuation of existing public and private institutional, cultural, educational, and health uses at their present locations and development of new uses in areas designated on the Land Use Plan Map in accordance with Policy 7.1.1.

PF 6.1.3 Maintain or improve the governmental facilities and services in order to meet the adopted levels of service and standards established in the Growth Management Element.

III. NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS

A. Planned Projects

1. Pedestrian Crossing @ Bella Terra
This project would provide access across the City's flood control channel and the adjacent rail road to encourage pedestrian movement between the adjacent development projects.

B. General Plan Policies:

CE 6.1.6 Maintain existing pedestrian facilities and require new development provide pedestrian walkways and bicycle routes between developments, schools, and public facilities.

IV. PARKS AND BEACHES

A. Planned Projects

1. Central Park Electrical Upgrades

This project will replace transformers and high voltage electrical lines.

B. General Plan Policies:

RCS 4.1 Improve and modernize existing parks and facilities to overcome existing design deficiencies and deteriorated conditions.

V. STREETS AND TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

A. Planned Projects

1. Adams Avenue Traffic Signal Synchronization
Provide communication and operational upgrades for greater system reliability to improve flows and minimize delays.
2. Traffic Signal Modification Projects
Modify the traffic signal at the intersection of Bolsa Chica/Bolsa, Main/Florida, Magnolia/Yorktown, Adams/Bushard, Gothard/Talbert, Gothard/Heil, and Springdale/McFadden to provide more efficient operation.

B. General Plan Policies:

CE 2 Provide a circulation system that supports existing, approved, and planned land uses throughout the City while maintaining a desired level of service and capacity on all streets and at all intersections.

CE 2.1 Comply with adopted performance standards for acceptable levels of service.

Objective 2.1 Maintain the following citywide level of service (LOS) standards for traffic-signal controlled intersections during peak hours:

- Locations with specific characteristics identified as critical intersections: LOS E (ICU to not exceed 1.00)
- Principal Intersections: LOS D (0.81-0.90 ICU)
- Secondary Intersections: LOS C (0.71-0.80 ICU)

LOS is to be determined during weekday morning and evening peak hours. Expanded timeframes may be applied to individual uses that generate high volumes of traffic during off-peak hours or weekends.

CE 2.2 Monitor the capacity of principal intersections throughout the City. When principal intersections approach or have reached unacceptable levels of service, consider elevating the priority of Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects that reduce traffic congestion at these intersections.

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) ensures that City facilities continue to be adequately accessible and maintained in order to provide services to residents and visitors. The City's Capital Improvement

Program is the main planning tool used by the City to coordinate financing and scheduling for major projects, including transportation improvements, to be undertaken by the City. The CIP ensures that an adequate amount of new circulation and access improvements are developed and maintained to support existing and future development. Capital improvements maintain an integral circulation infrastructure allowing the movement of people and goods throughout the City.

Zoning Compliance: Not applicable.

Urban Design Guidelines Conformance: Not applicable.

Environmental Status:

The General Plan conformance review is categorically exempt pursuant to Section 15306, Class 6 of the California Environmental Quality Act, which states that information collection that does not result in major disturbance to an environmental resource is exempt from any environmental review.

Coastal Status: Not applicable.

Redevelopment Status: Not applicable.

Design Review Board: Not applicable.

Subdivision Committee: Not applicable.

Other Departments Concerns and Requirements:

The Public Works Department, acting as applicant for General Plan Conformance No. 13-004, has reviewed and is processing the Capital Improvement Program request through the City Council. There are no concerns from other departments.

Public Notification:

General Plan Conformances are non-public hearing items and do not require legal public notification.

Application Processing Dates:

DATE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION:

June 13, 2013

MANDATORY PROCESSING DATE(S):

August 8, 2013 (within 40 days of submittal)

ANALYSIS:

The Government Code of the State of California, Section 65401, requires that a local planning agency review a list of proposed projects recommended for planning, initiation, or construction during the ensuing fiscal year for conformance with the local General Plan. This list of proposed projects is contained in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The Public Works Department has submitted a CIP for fiscal year 2013/14. The role of the Planning Commission in reviewing a CIP is to ensure the

conformity of each project with the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan. The benefits and funding source for individual projects listed in the CIP will then be reviewed and approved by the City Council.

Staff has identified goals, objectives, and policies that are applicable to the CIP in the General Plan Conformance section of this staff report. Because the proposed projects further the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan, staff recommends the Planning Commission approve General Plan Conformance No. 13-004 finding that the proposed CIP is in conformance with the General Plan.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Suggested Findings of Approval – GPC No. 13-004
2. Draft Planning Commission Resolution No. 1673

SH:MBB:RM:kd

ATTACHMENT NO. 1

FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL

GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 13-004

FINDINGS FOR PROJECTS EXEMPT FROM CEQA:

The Planning Commission finds that the proposed project will not have any significant effect on the environment and is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15306 of the CEQA Guidelines because the project involves information collection which does not result in major disturbance to an environmental resource.

FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL – GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 13-004:

1. The 2013/14 Capital Improvement Program conforms to the following goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan:

U 1.2 Ensure that existing development, redevelopment, and new development does not degrade the City's surface waters and groundwater basins.

U 3.3.2 Where feasible, utilize natural overland flows, open channels, and swale routings as preferred alignments for components of drainage systems.

CE 7.1.7 Continue to construct landscaped medians in existing major and primary arterial streets and continue to require the construction of landscaped medians in new developments.

LU 13.1.1 Allow for the continuation of existing public and private institutional, cultural, educational, and health uses at their present locations and development of new uses in areas designated on the Land Use Plan Map in accordance with Policy 7.1.1.

PF 6.1.3 Maintain or improve the governmental facilities and services in order to meet the adopted levels of service and standards established in the Growth Management Element.

CE 6.1.6 Maintain existing pedestrian facilities and require new development provide pedestrian walkways and bicycle routes between developments, schools, and public facilities.

RCS 4.1 Improve and modernize existing parks and facilities to overcome existing design deficiencies and deteriorated conditions.

CE 2 Provide a circulation system that supports existing, approved, and planned land uses throughout the City while maintaining a desired level of service and capacity on all streets and at all intersections.

CE 2.1 Comply with adopted performance standards for acceptable levels of service.

Objective 2.1 Maintain the following citywide level of service (LOS) standards for traffic-signal controlled intersections during peak hours:

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CE 2.2 Monitor the capacity of principal intersections throughout the City. When principal intersections approach or have reached unacceptable levels of service, consider elevating the priority of Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects that reduce traffic congestion at these intersections.

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) ensures that City facilities continue to be adequately accessible and maintained in order to provide services to residents and visitors. The City's Capital Improvement Program is the main planning tool used by the City to coordinate financing and scheduling for major projects, including transportation improvements, to be undertaken by the City. The projects within the CIP correspond to the goals of the City's Strategic Plan in the areas of Public Safety, Infrastructure and Transportation, Community Livability, and Environmental and Natural Resources. The CIP ensures that an adequate amount of new circulation and access improvements are developed and maintained to support existing and future development. Capital improvements maintain an integral circulation infrastructure allowing the movement of people and goods throughout the City.

DRAFT

RESOLUTION NO. 1673

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH FINDING THE CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013/2014
IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE GOALS, OBJECTIVES,
AND POLICIES OF THE GENERAL PLAN
(GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 2013-004)**

WHEREAS, the Government Code of the State of California, Section 65401, provides that a local planning agency review a list of the proposed public works projects recommended for planning, initiation, or construction during the ensuing fiscal year as to conformity with the local general plan; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works has submitted a coordinated list of all capital projects recommended by City departments for the ensuing fiscal year in the form of a Capital Improvement Projects List for Fiscal Year 2013/2014; and

WHEREAS, staff has indicated applicable General Plan goals, objectives, and policies for each project included in the Fiscal Year 2013/2014 Capital Improvements Program to establish conformance with the General Plan (Exhibit A).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Planning Commission of the City of Huntington Beach finds the Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2013/2014 in conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Planning Commission of the City of Huntington Beach at a regular meeting held on the 23rd day of July 2013, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Bixby, Peterson, Franklin, Pinchiff, Dingwall, Kalmick, Mandic

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

ATTEST:

Scott Hess, Secretary

Planning Commission Chairperson

EXHIBIT A

PLANNED PROJECTS AND GENERAL PLAN POLICIES FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM FY 2013/2014 (GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO.13-004)

The following is a list of planned projects for Fiscal Year 2013/2014 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) that requires General Plan Conformance. The list is divided into categories by subject. Below each project group is a listing of the relative General Plan policies.

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ATTACHMENT NO. 2.2

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ATTACHMENT NO. 2.4